

**ADMINISTRATIVE PLAN FOR THE
SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
PURSUANT TO ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 14
OF THE ARKANSAS SUPREME COURT**

Judge Tom Hughes (Division 1), Judge Robert Edwards (Division 2) and Judge Craig Hannah (Division 3) hereby submit to the Arkansas Supreme Court the following administrative plan for the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit to be effective January 1, 2010.

Administrative Policy: Judges of the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit shall meet during the first month of each calendar quarter to formulate, implement and act on matters of administrative policy and procedure within the jurisdiction of the Circuit Court. Majority approval of all circuit judges within the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit shall be required to adopt, enact or amend such administrative procedures or policies.

In White County, Arkansas cases shall be assigned by the clerk at the time of filing as follows:

- (A) Civil Cases-Judge Tom Hughes 75% **
Civil Cases-Judge Craig Hannah 25% **
- (B) Domestic Cases-Judge Craig Hannah, except for:
 - (a) 50% of Domestic Abuse cases **
 - (b) actions filed by the State of Arkansas, Office of Child Support Enforcement.

which shall be assigned to Judge Tom Hughes

- (C) Probate Cases-Judge Craig Hannah 25% **
Probate Cases-Judge Tom Hughes 75% **
- (D) Juvenile Cases-Judge Craig Hannah, except for:
 - (a) Dependency/Neglect actions filed by the Department of Human Services, which will be assigned to Judge Robert Edwards
- (E) Criminal Cases-Judge Robert Edwards, except for:
 - (a) Post conviction supervision of Drug Court cases, which will be assigned to Judge Craig Hannah.

**Cases shall be assigned to a Judge by random selection.

In Prairie County, Arkansas cases will be assigned by the clerk at the time of filing as follows:

- (A) Civil Cases-Judge Tom Hughes
- (B) Domestic Cases-Judge Craig Hannah
- (C) Probate Cases-Judge Craig Hannah
- (D) Juvenile Cases-Judge Robert Edwards
- (E) Criminal Cases-Judge Tom Hughes, except for;
 - (a) Post conviction supervision of Drug Court cases, which will be assigned to Judge Craig Hannah.

Judge Hughes, Judge Edwards and Judge Hannah specifically agree that the above method of assignment of cases shall apply as to the initial case assignment and that cases may be transferred or exchanged among judges by agreement of those judges. Additionally, all three judges recognize and accept that it is the affirmative duty of each

judge to hear and dispose of any type case when a judge is called upon to do so under appropriate circumstances such as absence of the assigned judge, recusal or case load requirements.

The assignment of cases, as set forth above, is a fair and equitable distribution of cases within the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit and will provide for effective administration of justice.

Approved and respectfully submitted,


JUDGE TOM HUGHES

5-19-09
DATE


JUDGE ROBERT EDWARDS

5-28-09
DATE


JUDGE CRAIG HANNAH

5.22.09
DATE